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MONTANA LABOR MARKET

Presenting INDUSTRIAL WAGES, WAGE-EARNERS, EMPLOYERS, BY COUNTIES IN FISCAL 1950

Issued by
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION COMMISSION OF MONTANA

L. G. DeNayer, Commissioner

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Mitchell Building — P. O. Box 1728 — Helena, Montana

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Distribution of Industrial and Commercial Employment, Wages and Employers Among State's 56 Counties in Fiscal 1950

Distribution of industrial and commercial employment, wages, and employers among the state's 56 counties, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1950, is revealed in a compilation just released. The listing is confined to the seven major industries subject to the state law governing its system of unemployment insurance. It, therefore, excludes the important activities of farming, livestock production, interstate railroads, all local, state and federal government employment, and certain charitable and religious units not subject to the act.

Derived from Quarterly Reports of Employers

Industries itemized in the tabulation are: mining, contract construction, manufacturing, utilities, trade, finance, and service. For each of these and in total are given the average number of employers, the average number of wage-earners, the amount of wages paid, in each county during fiscal 1950; also the state total in each category, and similar totals for the calendar year 1945, the latest available comparable figures. Source of the data is the system of quarterly reports furnished the Commission by employers subject under the law. The number of employers, and the number of their employees reported, are averaged over the four quarter period in the report, and the wages paid are shown in accumulative total for all four quarters.

All Counties Share in "Statewide" Item

Approximately 400 of the state's 14,000 employing units are listed as state-wide, their operations not being confined to, or ascribed to, an individual county. Since there is no means at hand for determining the county in which this employment is given it was not possible to allocate it on a county basis. In a general way it may be said that every county shares in the statewide item and hence the figures for each county would be expanded by some undetermined fraction of the statewide total. Statewide employers are units conducting branch establishments in other cities and counties, chain stores reporting as a single enterprise, contractors operating on construction projects in several counties, and other business institutions conducting branches or widespread activities. More than half of the employers falling into the statewide list are in wholesale and retail trade.

Reveals Individual County's Industrial Economy

Study of the figures given for an individual county will disclose the general nature of that county's industrial economy, the amount and distribution of its employment and wages, the relative size of its employing units, and may suggest to ambitious community builders the areas in which expansion can be cultivated and encouraged. The amount of industrial activity in the county is primarily dependent, of course, upon the presence of natural resources in active commercial demand, and secondarily upon the population and other facilities for development of those resources.

Provides County Breakdown of Each Industry

Another study offered by this tabulation is concerned with the distribution of a given industry among the several counties. It is notable that mining in some form is distributed among 52 of the 56 counties—only four showed no mining employment or wages during the year. Mining embraces not only the metals but also such products as petroleum, natural gas, building stone, phosphate, lime, gravel, and other earthly products recovered in their natural form. Contract construction is reported from every county, and likewise the utilities, trade

and service industries have a footing in each county. Manufacturing and financial institutions are lacking in several of the smaller counties.

Preliminary Census by Counties Included

Population figures by counties are also included in the tabulation for convenience of the reader. These are the preliminary census returns of 1950 and will be modified to only a slight degree in the final pronouncement of the census bureau. The final count for the state as a whole has been announced as 591,024, as compared with the preliminary total of 587,337. Allocation of this 3,687 of additional population is not expected to alter the preliminary county census figures to any material extent.

Wage Total Nearly Doubles in Five Years

Comparison of the total figures for fiscal 1950 with the similar figures for the calendar year 1945 affords some interesting conclusions. The total amount of wages paid in the more recent year was almost double that five years before, the average number of active employers was nearly 80 per cent greater, and the number of wage-earners had increased by 37 per cent.

Wage Changes by Industry Vary

Wages paid by construction contractors in 1950 were nearly four times those of 1945; service industries paid two and one-half times the earlier year's figure; wholesale and retail trade substantially more than doubled its wage outlay in the period, while both finance and the utilities doubled up. Least spectacular of the increases was that in the mining industry, which advanced only 30 per cent. This relatively nominal increase may be ascribed to the incidence of general apathy in production during most of the fiscal year 1950. That branch of the industry has staged a strong recovery since the close of fiscal 1950, both in its total employment and in the amount of wages reported.

Mining Employment Tilts Upward

Number of wage-earners in mining increased only slightly during the five year period. There were fewer coal miners in Carbon and Musselshell counties; oil field workers in Glacier and Toole counties remained on about the same level; curtailment of mining occurred in Park, Flathead and Lewis and Clark counties; Madison, Granite and Cascade employed slightly fewer miners. Increases occurred in Silver Bow and Deer Lodge counties, the bulwark of Montana mining industry, and in Fergus, Lincoln and Missoula. As already mentioned, the mining industry began a strong recovery process in production and employment late in the fiscal year 1950.

Construction Adds 147 Per Cent

Contract construction added 147 per cent to its employment during the five years, reflecting the program of building, residence, highway, and multiple purpose dam activity. Virtually all counties shared in the construction gains. Manufacturing employment increased a healthy 23 per cent in the period, with Cascade, Deer Lodge, Lewis and Clark, Lincoln, Sanders, Flathead and Yellowstone counties pointing the way.

Utilities, Trade and Finance Gain

An increase of approximately 36 per cent is shown for transportation, communication and utility, which omits railroads because their employment is under a different insurance act. Wholesale and retail trade are also up about 36 per cent. Healthy gains were made in the financial and real estate fields and in service industries.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS, WAGE-EARNERS, TOTAL OF WAGES, IN MONTANA

COUNTY	*Population 1950 (Preliminary)	STATE TOTALS BY COUNTIES (2)			MINING			CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION			MANUFACTURING	
		Average No. Employers	Average No. Wage Earners	WAGES	Average No. Employers	Average No. Wage Earners	WAGES	Average No. Employers	Average No. Wage Earners	WAGES	Average No. Employers	Average No. Wage Earners
Beaverhead	6,417	203	623	\$ 1,321,957	11	24	\$ 53,506	18	33	\$ 72,017	10	31
Big Horn	9,799	150	750	2,079,946	1	7	20,257	16	203	723,181	5	140
Blaine	8,473	138	633	1,395,384	3	10	21,539	12	72	179,014	9	142
Broadwater	2,887	58	201	408,687	5	6	12,596	3	8	19,311	5	8
Carbon	10,106	204	631	1,246,790	3	100	309,577	11	37	110,511	11	41
Carter	2,785	40	67	107,399	.....	.....	.....	4	4	6,899	5	4
Cascade	52,408	1,212	11,360	33,270,922	27	73	265,437	138	1,393	4,969,945	48	2,878
Chouteau	6,908	125	345	743,539	2	2	49,492	10	22	49,492	3	9
Custer	12,623	312	1,922	4,797,057	5	24	46,833	43	346	1,232,683	12	90
Daniels	3,928	93	248	529,019	1	1	1,329	3	9	22,825	3	6
Dawson	9,047	198	1,041	2,293,096	4	3	7,295	15	164	467,898	7	54
Deer Lodge	16,529	258	4,323	12,664,026	5	832	2,810,943	16	84	220,076	15	2,621
Fallon	3,647	79	229	455,371	1	16	72,348	9	31	41,376	3	10
Fergus	13,963	344	1,604	3,777,753	14	59	175,680	41	116	285,335	12	274
Flathead	31,412	853	4,905	14,203,294	4	6	14,730	70	1,012	4,589,161	142	1,414
Gallatin	21,718	569	2,754	6,588,543	1	5	6,432	51	299	1,000,514	41	414
Garfield	2,154	28	103	185,988	.....	.....	.....	1	2	3,598	1	1
Glacier	9,633	288	1,535	4,021,201	56	239	778,662	21	72	241,305	2	15
Golden Valley	1,339	13	20	30,926	.....	.....	.....	1	2	7,418	1	1
Granite	2,765	95	274	666,500	14	97	305,901	6	13	36,788	8	29
Hill	14,281	300	1,329	3,245,457	2	2	8,329	31	146	436,193	11	100
Jefferson	4,005	88	226	472,158	16	28	78,681	3	8	18,127	6	23
Judith Basin	3,204	38	91	204,830	2	2	2,792	3	5	9,035	2	4
Lake	13,767	273	909	1,973,757	2	2	2,242	20	74	188,049	38	5
Lekis & Clark	24,418	719	4,865	13,478,151	23	227	730,763	78	777	2,637,894	47	60
Liberty	2,168	45	117	224,830	2	5	15,974	4	14	34,436	1	4
Lincoln	8,672	210	1,510	4,702,178	5	150	589,249	11	32	71,720	61	944
Madison	5,906	135	303	697,237	17	67	200,693	9	17	43,438	6	10
McCone	3,246	36	75	170,407	.....	.....	.....	4	8	18,179	.....	.....
Meagher	2,039	58	187	377,493	1	8	27,294	4	13	63,984	16	61
Mineral	2,062	51	246	638,867	5	14	48,226	1	4	30	10	142
Missoula	34,982	846	6,297	17,409,235	6	28	113,244	112	581	1,929,615	63	1,870
Musselshell	5,392	120	791	2,024,049	12	401	1,277,713	6	16	49,849	5	16
Park	11,974	371	1,441	3,293,768	7	37	125,559	26	142	433,989	18	111
Petroleum	1,025	20	63	157,009	3	8	17,842	5	26	87,406	.....	.....
Phillips	6,343	113	407	813,781	2	30	85,572	6	11	16,971	4	19
Pondera	6,429	154	510	1,308,535	9	52	174,012	11	48	108,263	4	10
Powder River	2,680	43	84	176,007	1	1	2,145	7	13	33,749	4	5
Powell	6,258	128	613	1,633,755	6	236	896,193	8	22	55,539	13	32
Prairie	2,361	43	103	230,166	1	7	32,807	3	4	6,828	1	2
Ravalli	13,021	274	983	2,149,821	1	2	3,220	22	93	250,376	40	285
Richland	10,346	216	983	2,382,414	1	3	6,686	34	96	254,556	9	161
Roosevelt	9,550	221	669	1,434,320	2	7	14,472	20	49	139,227	5	16
Rosbud	6,529	96	327	808,664	4	55	270,735	5	8	17,229	6	15
Sanders	6,952	142	648	1,609,540	4	3	5,441	11	32	68,815	31	385
Sheridan	6,628	162	421	902,318	3	11	19,901	8	16	22,182	3	23
Silver Bow	47,992	1,101	12,768	37,130,156	20	5,626	18,471,117	59	476	1,499,150	47	808
Stillwater	5,345	97	215	460,983	1	1	929	5	13	31,492	6	10
Sweet Grass	3,619	83	236	462,232	1	2	4,915	5	11	21,323	7	24
Teton	7,130	167	555	1,162,929	3	49	202,547	23	73	179,532	7	18
Toole	6,859	290	1,105	2,565,285	93	345	863,821	22	121	298,477	6	23
Treasure	1,406	15	62	152,617	.....	.....	.....	1	19	62,992	.....	.....
Valley	11,320	226	877	2,017,049	1	1	1,693	26	133	404,161	7	43
Wheatland	3,162	77	203	397,477	1	10	6,517	1	4	11,198	2	5
Wibaux	1,904	43	119	249,839	1	2	4,526	3	3	5,480	1	3
Yellowstone	55,763	1,436	10,675	31,373,056	23	205	819,045	208	1,360	4,701,077	77	1,887
Statewide (1) .....	.....	403	14,188	42,547,538	25	352	1,472,039	56	1,238	4,421,238	23	1,411
Fiscal 1950	*587,337	14,100	98,769	\$271,825,306	463	9,483	\$ 31,502,931	1,350	9,628	\$ 32,911,145	930	17,987
Calendar 1945 .....	.....	7,916	71,988	\$137,486,572	346	9,205	\$ 24,064,733	376	3,889	\$ 8,434,593	494	14,443

* Includes 58 residing in Montana portion of Yellowstone Park. Final Census figure for Montana is 591,024; final county by county figures not yet announced.

(1) Statewide employers are those whose operations include firms with units or operations organized as a single enterprise. Also included are some firms located in one county but whose operations extend to another, such as construction companies. These firms represent approximately one-seventh of the state's employment economy of all Montana companies. The population, commercial and industrial patterns are shown in the accompanying charts.

ANA'S MAJOR COVERED INDUSTRIES BY COUNTIES, FISCAL YEAR 1950

INDUSTRY	TRANSP., COMMUN., PUBLIC UTILITIES			WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE			FINANCE, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE			SERVICE INDUSTRIES		
	Average No. Employers	Average No. Wage Earners	WAGES	Average No. Employers	Average No. Wage Earners	WAGES	Average No. Employers	Average No. Wage Earners	WAGES	Average No. Employers	Average No. Wage Earners	WAGES
61,440	6	12	\$ 14,038	97	360	\$ 788,459	7	30	\$ 83,392	53	132	\$ 246,793
423,471	3	8	20,534	86	305	675,354	10	29	96,484	29	58	120,665
358,440	5	16	33,517	77	288	625,159	6	31	75,358	26	74	102,357
21,553	1	1	586	27	113	234,078	1	7	16,457	16	58	104,106
79,796	12	16	30,400	107	291	473,176	9	22	60,805	50	121	175,951
8,385	4	8	9,967	18	30	43,650	2	7	13,305	7	14	25,193
9,302,435	42	363	970,321	511	4,332	12,304,073	113	595	1,649,032	327	1,717	3,790,049
21,916	3	6	5,433	74	227	524,319	7	27	50,421	26	51	86,782
264,076	15	89	270,912	125	862	1,995,437	15	62	170,413	97	449	816,703
11,616	2	6	16,496	57	174	380,167	5	17	46,975	22	35	49,611
150,141	10	37	82,450	96	451	975,823	8	40	93,267	57	290	514,674
8,050,430	12	50	136,959	127	440	957,372	15	43	89,527	68	253	398,719
22,490	5	6	6,753	35	101	201,811	4	16	36,747	22	49	73,846
770,453	9	63	150,632	161	696	1,672,138	28	104	180,332	77	290	540,115
3,979,764	24	227	609,881	340	1,430	3,421,095	38	138	322,629	227	654	1,207,005
1,149,158	22	63	157,530	252	1,205	2,825,276	37	133	285,528	162	613	1,154,432
1,996	1	1	2,657	13	35	59,288	2	4	4,254	10	60	114,195
49,893	12	89	232,583	118	690	1,967,768	7	32	74,685	70	396	670,633
1,159	2	2	1,605	8	13	17,354	.....	.....	.....	1	2	3,390
73,215	4	5	9,506	41	86	158,143	2	7	15,880	20	37	67,067
281,619	12	79	187,889	143	696	1,689,319	16	59	148,665	85	247	493,443
64,204	6	38	93,324	37	78	138,592	1	5	17,253	17	46	61,977
7,254	1	1	428	25	64	145,769	3	10	30,218	2	5	9,334
5,559	11	16	23,084	130	353	691,489	11	30	73,544	59	157	247,203
7,995	19	110	283,136	285	1,416	3,468,880	59	486	1,298,402	208	777	1,627,490
6,746	3	4	3,561	20	58	105,512	3	5	11,193	12	27	47,408
3,240,486	10	61	156,559	80	243	505,754	3	11	28,955	40	68	107,203
20,205	7	21	55,672	61	124	212,010	2	9	23,540	32	52	139,180
.....	2	12	31,829	21	39	79,141	1	4	13,825	8	12	27,433
100,859	3	17	44,199	20	54	79,463	2	7	12,696	11	25	46,360
429,640	1	3	5,547	20	63	120,080	.....	.....	.....	14	20	35,344
5,755,152	23	158	430,447	334	2,186	5,932,886	58	188	413,837	246	1,251	2,791,754
29,717	4	14	23,893	62	219	430,836	7	19	55,500	24	106	156,541
301,859	14	54	135,880	166	638	1,399,049	19	65	145,010	121	394	752,422
.....	3	3	1,005	5	17	32,438	.....	.....	.....	4	9	18,318
39,996	3	3	3,144	71	257	523,427	5	16	36,247	22	71	108,424
18,335	2	2	3,791	87	310	803,172	9	31	90,189	30	57	110,773
7,285	3	7	17,836	21	43	85,585	1	7	17,998	6	8	11,409
63,010	3	11	25,932	56	180	388,446	10	23	47,045	31	105	154,965
3,720	1	3	8,856	28	66	140,151	1	6	16,728	8	15	21,076
720,167	11	27	57,946	125	359	708,825	12	44	113,688	63	173	295,599
487,566	7	24	64,065	97	498	1,207,469	10	36	93,049	57	165	269,023
29,125	10	23	42,656	125	392	842,103	5	28	89,361	54	154	277,377
25,047	4	7	13,652	47	151	290,662	5	17	48,075	24	74	143,264
1,141,849	2	2	2,306	59	156	260,028	5	16	39,471	30	54	91,630
44,369	7	17	45,303	103	270	611,154	9	19	47,550	29	65	111,859
2,491,914	26	282	824,706	569	3,747	9,979,120	69	377	925,084	311	1,452	2,939,065
19,724	6	22	58,274	46	94	211,740	3	16	42,807	29	58	92,737
47,820	6	23	45,492	39	116	232,300	3	15	29,488	22	45	80,894
29,726	7	25	47,108	82	262	486,413	8	22	54,093	37	106	163,510
53,449	11	90	250,238	96	298	651,024	6	28	81,222	55	196	363,943
.....	3	9	17,029	8	30	61,682	1	2	5,302	2	2	5,612
96,411	10	62	143,828	121	437	1,025,816	12	41	104,306	49	160	240,834
6,441	4	6	7,861	45	120	225,675	4	12	40,474	20	46	99,311
3,130	2	6	20,223	24	74	146,152	3	13	25,674	9	18	44,654
6,047,967	51	718	2,318,126	611	4,360	12,363,511	107	488	1,333,037	335	1,645	3,770,416
4,738,083	21	4,598	14,390,202	211	5,802	15,619,868	34	305	826,299	32	482	979,809
55,307,256	512	7,626	\$ 22,747,787	6,450	36,399	\$ 92,195,481	823	3,804	\$ 9,745,316	3,525	13,700	\$ 27,199,880
3,710,729	303	5,571	\$ 11,813,251	3,940	26,721	\$ 42,914,282	671	2,859	\$ 4,984,826	1,811	9,165	\$ 11,193,418

are not ascribed to an individual county. It is based on a multi-county pattern and reporting as employers whose base operations shifts from one county to another. Wages and employment of such concerns are total. In a factual sense this category affects all counties, proportionately to such factors as their utilities represented, and volume of construction.

(2) State and County total of wages, average number of employers, and average number of wage-earners include a "Miscellaneous" industrial grouping not identified by county breakdown in this table. The totals for nineteen of the counties, and for the state as a whole, are inclusive of the "Miscellaneous" group, which has 47 employers, 142 employees, and wage totals of \$215,510. Since this grouping is omitted from the industrial columns in the table, but included in its totals and averages, a check-up of figures across the array will disclose a corresponding discrepancy which is accounted for by these "omitted" items. The omission was made necessary by space limitation.

ECONOMIC STUDY OF MONTANA IS UNDER WAY

This industrial breakdown of wages paid and wage earners affected, by counties, is compiled primarily as an item in the comprehensive economic study of Montana being conducted by the Commission with the co-operation of the State University of Montana, Bureau of Business and Economic Research. To facilitate its use by those concerned in the economic study, it has been prepared in printed form and a limited number of copies are being distributed. Additional copies will be provided upon request, as long as the supply lasts.

Attention of individuals and officials of community organizations is directed to the material facts disclosed in this compilation. Such basic material may well form the groundwork for community betterment and community development programs now in progress or which may later be required.

Mining—

- Metal Mining
- Coal Mining
- Petroleum and Gas Production
- Nonmetallic Mining, Quarrying

Contract Construction—

- Building
- Other Than Building
- Special Trade

Manufacturing—

- Ordnance and Accessories
- Food and Kindred Products
- Textile Mill Products
- Apparel, from Fabrics
- Lumber and Wood, Primary
- Furniture and Fixtures
- Printing and Publishing
- Chemicals
- Petroleum, Coal Products
- Leather and Products
- Stone, Clay, Glass, etc.
- Primary Metals Industries
- Fabricated Metal Products
- Machinery
- Transportation Equipment
- Scientific Instruments
- Misc. Mfg. Industries

Transportation, Communications, Public Utilities—

- Local Railways, Bus Lines
- Trucking and Warehousing
- Other Transportation
- Services Allied to Transportation
- Communication, Wire and Other
- Utilities, Electric and Gas
- Other Service Utilities

Employers, wage earners, and the public generally are directly interested not only in the industrial and county by county breakdown of such statistical material as here presented, but also in the effect such material may have in providing accurate and scientific data for meeting the purposes of the economic survey. One of the principal purposes, of course, leads to development of sound actuarial guides to legislative and administrative action with respect to unemployment insurance.

Classifications Within the Seven Major Industries Listed

Major industries as treated in this compilation are classified in accordance with the Standard Industrial Classification Manual. Subdivisions of the seven major groups operating in Montana and subject to the Montana laws on unemployment insurance are listed below.

Wholesale and Retail Trade—

- Full-Service Wholesalers
- Other Wholesale Distributors
- Wholesale and Retail (Combination)
- General Merchandise
- Food and Liquor Stores
- Automotive
- Apparel and Accessories
- Retail Trade not elsewhere classified
- Eating and Drinking Places
- Filling Stations

Finance, Insurance, Real Estate—

- Banks and Trusts
- Security Dealers, Investments
- Finance Agencies not elsewhere classified
- Insurance Carriers
- Insurance Agents
- Real Estate, Loans, Etc.
- Holding Companies (except real estate)

Service Industries—

- Hotels, Rooming Houses, Camps
- Personal Services
- Non-personal Services
- Trade Schools, Etc.
- Auto Repair and Garages
- Hand Repair Trades
- Motion Pictures
- Amusement, Recreation
- Medical and Health
- Law Offices
- Educational Institutions
- Professional and Social
- Non-profit Membership Organizations

Miscellaneous—

- Farm Services
- Forestry
- Not Elsewhere Classified

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION
COMMISSION OF MONTANA
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